

with an average annual outage of about 28 days for units 200/210/250/500 MW as against 51 days for 210 MW and 63 days/unit/year for 500 MW followed earlier which would lead to saving of down time of 23 days/unit/year for 200/210/250 MW units and 35 days/unit/year for 500 MW. The average overhaul period 33 days/year has been recommended by the Kukde Committee for units of less than 200 MW.

Utilization of power generation capacity

-676. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are not in a position to utilize fully the installed capacity in power generation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of variation in utilizing the complete installed capacity in public sector and private sector?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) the utilization of installed capacity of a generating unit is linked to the type of generation. While the thermal units are meant to be utilized continuously as based load units, hydro units are to be utilized depending on availability of water/reservoir level. Thus, utilization of installed capacity is effectively applicable to thermal (including nuclear) generating units and is expressed in terms of Plant Load Factor (PLF). The PLF of thermal and nuclear units depends on a number of factors such as vintage of the unit, forced and planned outages, availability of required quality and quantity of fuel, etc. Indicator for performance of hydro generating units is its availability (excluding the time required for its planned maintenance and attending to forced outages) and actual energy generation *vis-a-vis* design energy.

Sector-wise details of utilization of Thermal and Nuclear Power plants in terms of PLF and availability of machines and generation with respect to their Design Energy for hydro projects for the year 2005-06 are given below:

Sector	Thermal@		Nuclear		Hydroene	Gene- ration achieve- ment w.r.t. Design Energy (%)
	Target PLF(%)	Actual PLF(%)	Target PLF(%)	Actual PLF(%)	Availa- bility(%)	
Central	79.0	82.1	58.8	63.2	86.8	94.7
State	71.3	67.1	-	-	89.2	92.6
Private	82.3*	85.4*	-	-	98.3	119.5
ALL INDIA TOTAL	74.7	73.6	58.8	63.2	89.2	94.1

@ Coal & liquid

*Private Utilities only

Setting up of national power grid

677. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the plan of setting up of National Power Grid has been hanging for a long time;

(b) if so, the impediments that are creating problems towards setting up of a National Power Grid;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many regions do not have surplus power; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The process of strengthening of transmission system for development of a National Power Grid is a continuing process. Starting from isolated systems, State grids and regional grids were developed. Thereafter, the process of interconnecting and integrating the regional grids to form National Power Grid was started. Initially, asynchronous inter-regional inter-connections were provided during 1990s keeping in view the frequency profile of operation of the various regional grids. The